Volunteer Firemen

Professional Journal of the Volunteer Firemen's Section of the National Fire Protection Association

Volume 2, Number 6 **BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS** **June, 1935**

Fireworks in the hands of a small boy caused this fire in a drug store in Spencer, Iowa. The resulting conflagration burned 27 buildings with a loss of $750,000.

For Safer 4ths of July

Prohibit Fireworks for Children but Give Them a Fine Public Display—Ways to Cut Independence Day Fires

LAST July in Cascade Locks, Oregon, a fire started in a fireworks stand, roared through the business district, and threatened the entire town before it was brought under control by local and neighboring firemen. In Lamar, Missouri, 25 persons were injured, 14 of them seriously, when a truck-load of fireworks exploded, apparently from a lighted firecracker being thrown among them.

As the "Glorious Fourth" approaches, the spectre of death and blinded and crippled children due to fireworks again arises. Each year scores of people die and hundreds are injured on and around the 4th of July as direct results of fireworks. The use of fireworks is not confined to Independence Day celebrations but is common in certain sections of the South at Christmas and in the West among the Chinese at New Year's.

Figures compiled by the American Medical Association and the American Museum of Safety show that during the 30 years from 1900 to 1930 more American lives were lost in celebrating our independence than were lost in acquiring it in the Revolutionary War. In addition, fireworks add approximately $1,000,000 a year to the national fire waste.

Spencer, Iowa, a town of 5,000 people, during the fire that destroyed three of its five business blocks.

On July 27, four years ago, in Spencer, Iowa, a small boy carelessly dropped a lighted sparkler on a stock of fireworks in a drug store. Thirty buildings were destroyed by the conflagration which followed, with a loss of three-quarters of a million dollars. The entire business section of this town of 5,000 people was virtually wiped out.

The wind and occasional outbursts of fireworks in other stores encouraged the rapid spread of this fire. It was fought by the local volunteer fire department, which consisted of a paid driver and 22 volunteers.

Although some delay occurred in getting word to other cities because the telephone system was out of service, seven departments responded and joined the local volunteers in fighting the fire. These departments were able to give valuable assistance as they all had previously converted their hose threads to the National Standard. The water supply was low due to the lack of rain for several months. The system was soon overtaxed. Some of the pumpers from the neighboring towns then took suction from ponds, and others, located at a river one-quarter of a mile from the fire, pumped into street hydrants.

This conflagration taught such a forceful lesson on the seriousness of the fireworks hazard that a state-wide campaign was launched by the State Fire Marshal and scores of cities and towns passed ordinances regulating the sale, storage, and use of fireworks.

Nearly all of the deaths and injuries and loss of property by fires due to fireworks can be prevented by adequate laws and enforcement and educating the public in safe and sane celebrations. Lockjaw frequently results from a powder burn. Other hazards of the 4th of July as pointed out by the National Safety Council are automobile accidents, drownings, and firearms.

In addition to the fires due to fireworks and matches igniting clothing and causing deaths and severe burns, fire departments have to face the problem of a large number of fires caused by fireworks igniting wooden shingle roofs and other readily combustible material in the community.

Some effort needs to be made in every city and town toward leading the people into more modern and intelligent forms of celebrations. Surely there is no glory in any celebration that kills and injures people and burns property. The use of fireworks should not be allowed in any community unless such exhibitions are supervised by the fire department or other competent and authorized persons. A model ordinance with this purpose in view has long been recommended by the National Fire Protection Association. It is based upon successful legislation in several states and cities. Copies may be obtained upon request to the N.F.P.A.

This suggested ordinance prohibits the discharge, firing, or use of all firecrackers, rockets, torpedoes, roman candles, fire balloons and other fireworks, and all pistols, cannons, and other appliances. It prohibits the sale of fireworks at retail, and the storage or sale of fireworks at wholesale except by permit from the fire department.

The ordinance provides, however, for the display of pyrotechnics under proper supervision, thereby allowing communities to have fitting celebrations. Licenses or permits for this purpose and for storage are to be issued by the mayor if the fire chief believes that the particular display will not be hazardous to property or endanger lives. Penalties for violations consist of a fine of not less than $10 or more than $25 for each day's neglect of compliance.

In a medium sized city, 104 people were treated at hospitals for injuries on one Fourth from explosives. The next year an ordinance similar to the

Here's What Fourth Fireworks Do

Destroy eyesight.
Cause lockjaw deaths.
Mangle fingers and hands.
Make cripples for life.
Causes injuries from flying glass.
Destroy homes by fire.
Cause fatal clothing burns.
Poison many little children.
Injure innocent animals.
Cause gasoline explosions.
Injure swimmers in water.
Cause automobile accidents.
Waste lots of money.
Make too much noise.
Cause neglect of better fun.

National Safety Council

one explained above was put in force and not a single person was injured badly enough to be taken to the hospital.

In another city the average number of fires from fireworks for five years was 45 per year and the average fire loss was $6,000. Then an ordinance was passed. For the next five years the average number of fires was 1 per year and the average loss was $3. Like results may be cited for other communities, large and small.

Fire departments in many communities have done excellent work in getting a local ordinance passed which prohibits the sale of fireworks but allows displays and public exhibitions under competent supervision. Many other communities have ordinances restricting the sale of fireworks in respect to the details of time of sale, use, size of firecrackers, and so forth.

Fire departments may also lend their influence through their firemen's association in support of state laws on this subject. Then it is their duty to work with the law-enforcing authorities in enforcing the provisions of the laws. Fireworks do not serve a necessary purpose, and to discontinue their use should not work any serious hardship upon anyone.

Another activity of fire departments that is always effective in reducing 4th of July injuries and losses to life and property is reminding the public of the seriousness of the fireworks hazard. This is usually done through newspaper publicity and public talks.

Figures indicate that the 4th as generally observed is safer and saner than ten or fifteen years ago. This no doubt results from the work of national organizations interested in the conservation of life and property and from the determination of states and local communities to outlaw deadly fireworks. About half of the states have some sort of legislation restricting fireworks, but these regulations are fairly comprehensive in less than a dozen states. State laws, if properly enforced, can do much toward controlling the hazard and preventing bootlegging of fireworks into communities restricting their sale and use.

Literature on safe wiring practices such as pictured above is available to firemen by writing to the Public Relations Committee, New York Chapter Electrical Inspectors, 85 John St., New York City.

Using Electricity Safely

THE extended and more general use of electricity in recent years has carried with it inherent fire hazards. In spite of this fact which is well known to every experienced fireman, electricity has brought many conveniences such as irons, toasters, and radios, and has displaced the use of more dangerous kerosene and gasoline light, heat, and power equipment.

To begin with, a proper installation of wiring and devices in a building is necessary. In most communities this is done by electricians under the supervision of authorities in accordance with safety requirements of the National Electrical Code. The greatest fire danger, however, is due to the misuse of electricity through overloaded wiring, improper fusing, careless use of cords and appliances, and by persons who know little or nothing about it tampering with wiring or adding to existing installations.

Electrical fire hazards are found while inspecting business property and homes. Electrical fires may be prevented by persistent educational work among the citizens.

Abuse of cords on appliances causes many fires in the factories and business houses as well as in homes. All cord purchased should bear the label of approval of Underwriters' Laboratories. Cords require constant care to keep the insulation from wearing off and the wires inside from breaking or becoming short circuited.

Handling Hose in Drying Towers

A Volunteer Fire Department's Method Which Combines Speed and Convenience of Operation

MEN who have their work at heart generally want all the information they can get on any subject that concerns their work. I once visited over twenty fire stations and found almost the same number of different ways of doing any one fire department operation. I am therefore glad to explain a method of handling hose in a hose tower that I designed and which we use in Kenora. I believe that every fireman who has a new or better way of doing some operation should pass the information along to other firemen.

Fig. 1. Hose arriving at top and being placed on hanger.

By Fred Dubois, *Chief*
Fire Dept., Kenora, Ont., Canada

Chief Dubois is the chief of a volunteer fire department, and designed the method of operation which he describes in the accompanying article. The special hose handling appliance used is his own invention.

Every fireman knows what it means to be able to get extra lengths of hose quickly when he needs it in an emergency. Many times when it is needed at a large fire much of a small department's hose may be on a drying rack, hung on hangers, or hung up at full length in a hose tower. All volunteer fire departments do not have hose towers for drying their hose, but drying hose in a tower is the best method and should be kept in mind when a new station is being designed or an old one remodeled.

The system used in Kenora makes it possible to hang the hose conveniently and provides for getting it down quickly. The way it works is described below. Four operations are shown in the accompanying pictures.

The hose is hung full length, the male coupling being placed on stationary hangers located on all four sides at the top of the tower. This is done by means of a stationary pulley on a swivel joint attached in the center at the top of the tower. A pulley of this type keeps the rope from getting twisted. At one end of the rope which passes over this pulley is a special type of iron hook.

Figure 2 shows the hook attached to a length of hose which is about to be hoisted up through the center of the tower. This hook is easily and quickly attached about a foot from the male coupling. It does away with the usual practice of attaching the hose by tying a knot in the rope.

Fig. 2. Starting to hoist hose in the tower.

Figure 1 shows the hose arriving at the top and being placed on a hanger by a second man. The pulley shown at the top of the picture allows the hose to be handled easily on any side of the tower. Notice how neatly the hose is hung by the male couplings. Hanging the hose with male couplings up prevents the threads from getting battered as they would if the couplings hit against each other or against the brick or concrete walls as when lengths of hose are hung with the male couplings down. The fireman is standing on a platform so designed that there is no danger of his falling.

This system permits the handling of any size of fire hose. Three lengths of small hose can be seen at the left.

In Figure 4 the man is preparing to lower a section of hose. The patented clamp is placed on it like a police handcuff. As the rope is pulled the clamp slides to the top of the hanging length of hose. When it gets to the top it automatically detaches the hose from its hanger as shown in Figure 3. The same man then lowers the hose in the center of the tower without interfering with other sections.

The chief advantage of this system is that one man at the bottom of the tower does all the work of lowering the hose alone, thus avoiding the usual necessity of sending a second man to the top of the tower to attach the rope to the hose. When speed is required, he can lower the hose faster than it can be taken away, or the sec-

tions can be coupled together by other men as it comes down and placed on the truck.

We have a wooden frame platform at the bottom of the tower to prevent the couplings from being damaged on the concrete floor. Several doors at the base of the tower and a ventilator at the top provide a good circulation of fresh air for drying the hose inside and out during the summer months. A sewer connection in the floor allows the hose to be thoroughly washed before hanging it in the tower.

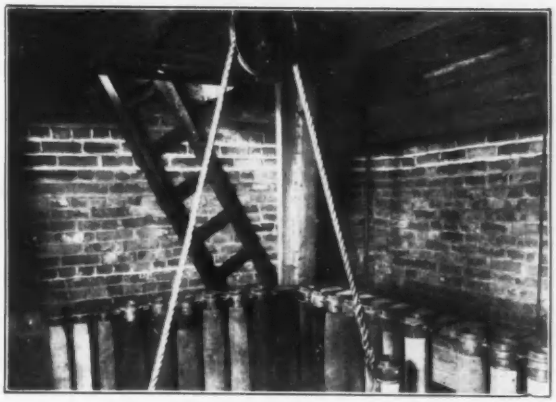

Fig. 3. Clamp releasing male coupling from its hanger to begin lowering process.

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The Tannic Acid Treatment for Burns

In their work of fire fighting and answering calls for first aid, volunteer firemen are expected to know something about the treatment for burns. Why burns cause death and the best method for relieving pain and curing the patient have only recently been discovered.

The following remarks on the best treatment for burns and scalds, and how it was discovered, are notes from an address given by Harry H. Wolff at the 7th Annual Fire Department Instructors' Conference at Memphis, Tennessee, in January.

If exposed nerves of the burned area are protected against contact with the atmosphere, the pain is less severe. In the past many treatments have been used to ease the pain with varying degrees of success, such as olive oil, bland oil, sweet oil, oil of salts, linseed oil, a mixture of linseed oil and lime water known as Carron Oil, ointments, salves, picric acid solutions, and boric acid.

In the past several theories have been advanced as to the effects of burns on the anatomy. One theory held that a burn affected the nerve system, another the heat regulatory system, and still another indicated that a burn injured the circulatory system. All of these theories lacked complete proof.

The late Edward C. Davison, formerly of the Henry Ford Hospital at Detroit, definitely proved the theory that severe burns cause an inflammation of internal organs similar to that caused by a poison condition in the body. He came across a curious document written by Hermann Pfeiffer, a German investigator of long ago.

This paper revealed that if blood taken from a burned rabbit was injected into a normal rabbit, this rabbit exhibited all the symptoms of being burned and died. If the skin of a scalded rabbit was removed promptly and new skin grafted the rabbit usually lived. If a solution containing burned skin and flesh was fed to healthy animals they died. The problem then was to find a non-poisonous chemical or antiseptic to coagulate these toxic ingredients.

Fig. 4. Automatic hose clamp ready to be applied to a section of hose to lower it.

Experiments satisfied Dr. Davison that tannic acid was the proper thing to use to relieve pain and cure the patient. He developed the following method of treating all forms of burning and scalding.

A five per cent solution was prepared. Then sterile gauze compresses moistened in this solution were laid over the burned areas. The compresses were kept moist until the areas turned dark brown. It was also found that by giving burns repeated coatings of this solution by spraying, the results were the same.

Fire departments keeping abreast of modern developments have adopted the tannic acid treatment for burns in their first aid practices. The solution is made by dissolving five grams of Tannic Acid Powder U.S.P. Fluffy in one pint of boiled water. It is then poured into a gun and sprayed on the burn. The spraying is repeated every five or ten minutes as the previous application evaporates. By this time the patient should be under a doctor's care.

Under no circumstances should tannic acid get into a person's eyes, as harmful results may follow. For burns near the eyes a water soluble jelly containing a five per cent concentration of tannic acid should be applied.

The tannic acid solution will not retain its tanning properties for more than a few days. It is therefore necessary to mix fresh solutions as they are needed.

With this better understanding of how burns affect the anatomy and a more general use by doctors and firemen of the tannic acid method of treatment for them, the large number of deaths throughout the country due to burning and scalding may be materially reduced.

Fire Stations and Equipment Also Burn

Study of 40 Cases where Fires Occurred in Volunteer Fire Stations—Answers to Discussion Questions

THE answer to Question No. 13 was compiled from the records on file in the N.F.P.A. Department of Fire Record. Question No. 14 is answered from a set of suggested drills prepared for the Texas Firemen's Training School under the direction of Professor H. R. Brayton of the Texas A. & M. College at College Station.

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Q. Are volunteer fire department stations and equipment ever completely destroyed in fires before it is possible to remove the apparatus with which to fight them?

A. Yes. A study of the records of 40 fires involving volunteer fire department stations shows that these buildings are susceptible to destruction by fire the same as other buildings. Sometimes firemen cannot get their apparatus out in time to save it and to fight the fire in the station. Not one of the 40 fires was reported as due to the most common cause of fire—smoking or matches.

Twenty-eight of the fires were in separate fire stations, eight were in combined buildings housing both the city or town hall and the fire department, four were in public garages housing the apparatus and two originated in the fire alarm section of the fire-station. About one-third of the fires were caused by defective wiring, and one-fifth by heating equipment.

Sixty per cent of the fires were fought by the local volunteer fire department whose station was on fire. In 12 per cent of the cases the fire was fought by the local department with outside aid, and twenty-eight per cent of the fires were handled by outside departments alone. In several instances outside help arrived too late to save much of the burning building and equipment. When a volunteer department's only station burns and destroys all its apparatus is one time that mutual aid systems among local communities become valuable.

In over fifty per cent of the fires the fire station was completely destroyed and in nearly all of these the apparatus and equipment were also burned up. In one fire the station, two pieces of apparatus, and the garage and school across the street were destroyed, with a total loss of $225,000. Outside aid was essential at one volunteer fire department station fire when the station with three trucks in it and six adjoining buildings were completely destroyed (ten other buildings were damaged, due to wooden shingle roofs), and the fourth piece of apparatus from the other fire station was at a fire out of town. Another fire starting in a fire station, due to an undetermined cause, burned up the truck and swept through the business section of the town, destroying seventeen buildings. When pumpers from other cities arrived they relayed water from a distant brook.

In one small town the living quarters of the only full time fireman were on the floor above the station. His wife attempted to revive a fire in the kitchen stove with kerosene. An explosion resulted and she and two of her small daughters were burned to death.

Problem Questions
FOR JUNE

Suggested for discussion at company and department meetings this month

15

What advantages does a booster tank have over a chemical tank?

16

What is the proper way to climb a ladder?

Watch for the answers in the next issue of VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

The total monetary loss in the 28 fires for which the figures are available was $1,120,000. This includes the loss to the fire station where the fire started, the apparatus, and the adjoining buildings, but does not include four fires where the fire stations caught fire from exposure to other property on fire.

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Q. How should salvage covers be cared for after being used?

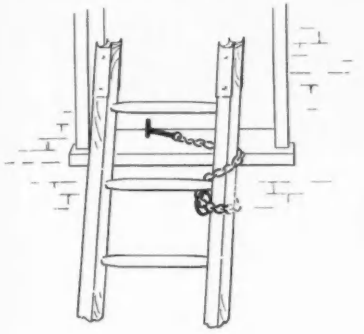
A. Cleaned with cold water, inspected, and mended if necessary. Salvage covers should be washed clean after each fire, using cold water. Do not use hot water and soap unless necessary. If there is any tar on the canvas covers use scraper and a small amount of kerosene (*not gasoline.*) They should be dried and inspected after each fire and drill. Company officers should personally see that covers are clean, dry and in good repair before placing them in service again.

Throwing covers from windows above grade level should be prohibited. When removing covers from contents, they should be rolled off to prevent tearing of cover. Unnecessary walking on covers should be forbidden. Covers used on stairways should be removed as soon as possible. Covers on apparatus, if not used, should be removed after two weeks and aired and refolded.

Rubber covers require special attention. They should be hung on racks and water run on them to prevent cracking and sticking together. Rubber covers should be mended with rubber material, using rubber cement and a patch.

The method that has been found best to patch canvas covers is to sew them with a sail needle by hand, using sail twine, in a very close herringbone stitch. Cover the completed job with wax and lightly pound over the stitches.

Fire Tools



Ladder Dog Chain

A dog chain consists of a piece of chain about two feet long, having at one end a spike or pin bent at right angles, and at the other end a ring. The dog chain is principally used for securing a ladder.

To dog a ladder to a roof, place chain around each spar (or beam) of ladder under a rung, just below or at the roof. Draw tight around spar by passing dog through the ring, pass chains over the rung, cross chains to opposite sides to prevent the ladder from slipping sideways, and drive dogs securely into the roof.

To dog a ladder to a window, the ladder should be pushed to the left and the dog chain put around the right spar of the ladder underneath the rung just below or at the window sill. Draw tight around the spar by passing dog through the ring and carry over the rung and around the spar bringing the ladder securely against the left side of the window. Drive the dog securely into the sill or other firm place.

In dogging a ladder to a fire escape, one chain may not be long enough and it may be necessary to fasten two chains together. This may be accomplished in the following manner:—pass the first chain around the spar of the ladder, dog through the ring under the rung most convenient to use, pass chain over rung, pass dog of second chain through ring of second chain making a loop, pass dog of first chain through loop of second chain and pull second chain tight. This length of chain should enable you to make a half-hitch around the structure of the fire escape. In some cases it may be advisable to dog each spar of the ladder to the fire escape.

A hose rope may be used to lengthen a dog chain by applying the hose rope to the ladder in the same manner as a dog chain. Then pass the end of the hose rope through the ring of the dog chain, and tie with two half-hitches.

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A Progressive Fire Department

Progressive business men in Harrison, Arkansas, don't let the present economic condition keep them from improving their fire protection and prevention facilities. They purchased a new pumper and are keeping the old hose truck in reserve. They bought 1,000 feet of new hose, persuaded the water commissioners to purchase 4,000 feet of 6-inch pipe to connect up dead-end mains, and adopted a building code.

According to the March issue of "Safeguarding Arkansas Against Fire" these improvements entitled the city to the best insurance classification of any city below 5,000 population in the state. The Harrison Volunteer Fire Department was the first department in the state to enroll in the Volunteer Firemen's Section of the N.F.P.A. The above publication also states that many more departments should take advantage of membership in the section.

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Damage to Fire Hose

The Volunteer Fire Company of Terra Alta, West Virginia (Member N.F.P.A.), recently issued to its citizens some good advice on taking good care of fire hose. The following statements are digested from the article on this subject which appeared in the company's souvenir book.

Fire hose is made of the highest grade woven cotton fabric and finest quality rubber. It costs the taxpayers plenty of good money. When it wears out it must be replaced. Too frequently it is damaged by other means than by common use and ordinary wear.

To drive your car over a charged hose line imposes additional strain and wear upon the hose, and to drive over a flat or discharged line makes a short bend—damaging the fabric and rubber tubing. This shortens the useful life of the hose and makes it liable to bursting—probably at a most critical time during a fire.

Fire hose is expensive, and we must have it, but why should it be damaged unnecessarily? It is always a problem to get money when new hose is needed, and it is often badly needed for our protection two or three years before it is provided. So, please do not run over fire hose.

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SALVAGE COVERS
Reduce WATER DAMAGE & INSURANCE RATES
SHUREDRY is the cover that fire chiefs all over the country have endorsed for superior service.
Made of our special process chemically treated canvas they resist both heat and cold. SHUREDRY covers will not crack or split on your storage shelves — easy to handle — give better service.
Address our plant nearest you for full information and prices.
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Volunteer Firemen

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Schools, Fairs, Conventions During the next few months many states, provinces, counties, and smaller communities will hold fire schools, fairs, and conventions of fire chiefs and firemen's associations. Taking part in activities of this kind is of much value both to the fireman and to the community he serves.

At schools and conventions firemen exchange with each other their experiences and ideas on how to fight and prevent fires. At fairs they play an important role in bringing fire prevention education to large numbers of people.

The Volunteer Firemen's Section will be discussed at many of these gatherings. The valuable services rendered by the section are vouched for by its members. We ask the thousands of members to say a good word for the section at the meetings they attend. This is your section. Take pride in belonging to it and give it a boost.

A Little Life Saver Volunteer firemen who have the time and inclination to teach fire emergency treatment to the people of their localities will be inspired by the action of an eleven-year-old Neodesha, Kansas, girl, who recently saved the life of a little six-year-old neighbor by acting promptly on the instruction given her in the public school as part of a fire prevention campaign conducted last year by the Kansas State Department of Inspections and Registration under A. W. Logan, its director.

The little girl's name was Patsy Jill Pumphrey. One day some weeks ago Patsy Jill rushed out of the house, passed her mother without saying a word, and into the back yard where her eight-year-old brother and a neighbor boy, six years old, were toasting apples over an open fire.

Through the window she had seen the smaller boy's clothes catch fire. She placed her hand over the nostrils of the little boy, preventing the inhalation of flames or smoke, and wrestled the boy to the ground and began rolling him back and forth in the dirt until the flames were extinguished. She then delivered him to his mother.

Later, when questioned about her knowledge of how to act under the emergency, she reminded her mother of the fire prevention instructions she had received at school.

Needless and Tragic Loss of Life While firemen were battling from the outside the flames that were destroying a farm house in Delaware last month, a young mother and her four children burned to death in their beds. Their charred bodies were found when a check-up was made after the fire. No search was made before because a neighbor said that the family was not at home.

A fire department's first duty when arriving at a fire is to make a thorough search of the property for people that may be inside. What anyone says concerning the occupants should never be relied upon. Tragic indeed is such needless loss of life—all because these two simple rules are not consistently followed.

New Members Last Month Since we printed the roster of all the fire companies and departments that are members of the Volunteer Firemen's Section in the last issue of VOLUNTEER FIREMEN, 22 additional departments with 481 men have affiliated. The total individual membership of the section is now 8,266 firemen. The 22 new department members are:

Vredenburgh Fire Department, Vredenburgh, Alabama.
Vandalia Volunteer Fire Department, Vandalia, Illinois.
Wheaton Volunteer Fire Department, Wheaton, Illinois.
Wilmette Fire Department, Wilmette, Illinois.
Jefferson Fire Department, Jefferson, Iowa.
Mendon Fire Department, Mendon, Massachusetts.
Tyngsboro Fire Department, Tyngsboro, Massachusetts.
Mountain Lake Fire Department, Mountain Lake, Minnesota.
South Sioux City Volunteer Fire Department, South Sioux City, Nebraska.
Hose Company No. 1, Essex Fells, New Jersey.
Peerless Hose Company No. 2, Maywood, New Jersey.
Williamstown Fire Company No. 1, Williamstown, New Jersey.
East Romero Hose and Fire Company, Las Vegas, New Mexico.
Bellmore Fire Department, Bellmore, New York.
North Sea Fire Department, North Sea, Southampton, New York.
Henderson Fire Department, Henderson, North Carolina.
Drake Volunteer Fire Department, Drake, North Dakota.
Edmore Volunteer Fire Department, Edmore, North Dakota.
Monessen Volunteer Fire Department and Relief Association, Monessen, Pennsylvania.
Bristol Fire Department, Bristol, Tennessee.
Beeville Fire Department, Beeville, Texas.
Kenedy Fire Department, Kenedy, Texas.

Membership Plan

Volunteer Firemen's Section
National Fire Protection Association

WHERE twenty or more firemen in a volunteer company or department affiliate with the Volunteer Firemen's Section the cost is 50 cents a year *per man.* Each fireman will receive one copy of VOLUNTEER FIREMEN, the monthly journal of the Volunteer Firemen's Section, mailed regularly to his home address. The company or department automatically becomes a member of the National Fire Protection Association and is entitled to full privileges of membership. All the literature regularly issued to N.F.P.A. members is mailed to headquarters of the company or department.

Membership may be applied for by one member of the company or department collecting 50 cents for each of the 20 or more members and making a single remittance for the group, or the company or department may take a membership for its men and make a single remittance from the company or department treasury.

Companies With Less Than Twenty Members

Because of the large amount of material mailed to members, not less than $10.00 can be accepted from any company or department for membership dues. In the case of companies or departments with less than twenty men this means that the cost divided among them will be slightly higher per man. Of course, some such companies or departments may prefer to make a single remittance of $10.00 from the company or department treasury. In other cases a few interested citizens, not members of the company or department, may be glad to contribute 50 cents apiece to make up the required minimum of twenty, so that the members may secure the rate of 50 cents per man.

These companies or departments have full privileges of N.F.P.A. membership as above, and each member receives the monthly magazine, VOLUNTEER FIREMEN, at his home.

Have you ordered your copy of . . .

The Volunteer Fire Company

By William Draper Brinckloe

This book is an attractive volume of 168 pages and 24 illustrations of volunteer fire department apparatus, equipment and fire fighting methods.

It was written by a volunteer fireman. It contains 14 chapters of as interesting reading as a good novel.

Send $1 for your copy today.

National Fire Protection Association
60 Batterymarch Street, Boston Mass.

A Barton's Value
"Thoroughly Demonstrated"

Says Feb. 7th issue of Bangor Advance

Chief Bosier Now Has two Barton Pumps

Bangor, Michigan, purchased its first Barton in 1931. Last fall a second Barton was added. One Barton equipped fire truck is now used for town protection, the other for rural runs throughout the township.

TWO FARM FIRES IN THE SAME LOCALITY KEPT FIREMEN BUSY MANY HOURS

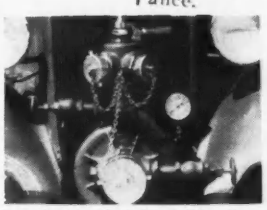
The Bangor firemen spent the greater part of Thursday night on duty with the rural truck, fighting fires at the farms of George Carpenter and Mrs. Marie Welch.

The Carpenter fire was reported first, shortly after nine o'clock, when backfire from a truck is thought to have started a blaze in the shed The firemen were of great service in preventing the spread of the flames to other buildings, but were unable to stop the fire in the shed as it was out of control when they arrived.

As the firemen were preparing to leave the Carpenter farm, word of the second fire at the Welch farm was brought by Ray Haney, who discovered it as he was returning home from the Carpenter fire. Here, the roof of the upright portion of the house was afire, the flames having gained considerable headway.

They Chopped their Way To Water and Quickly Quenched the Flames

At this fire the value of the new pump as a rural fire-fighting machine was most thoroughly demonstrated. A line of 350 feet of house was run across the road from the burning dwelling to a small pond, the suction hose placed through a hole chopped in the ice and two streams of water under high pressure were available which quickly quenched the flames holding the damage to the roof and a few furnishings, the total value being estimated at $500, covered by insurance.



The Barton Centrifugal Fire Pump is mounted on front as shown above. You can use practically any make of new or old chassis. Pump can be installed in few hours by garage mechanic.

Here's REAL PROTECTION, Mr. Fire Chief! You'll get a big thrill fighting fires with this wonderful Barton Pump. At your command will be two smashing streams at pressures up to 250 pounds. You can blast your way through—break windows five stories up! Here's a pump with geared drive that cuts motor speeds in half—with ball-bearing, water-cooled transmission case—with automatic primer that never fails! Never before such a value!

Best of all A SMALL INVESTMENT COVERS EVERYTHING. The Barton is not high priced, yet it is the ONLY front mounted fire pump that meets Underwriters' Tests. Write us for FREE Bulletin No. 75.

AMERICAN STEAM PUMP COMPANY
BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

COMBINATION BRASS NOZZLE FOR 50-FOOT STREAM OR A LONG COARSE SPRAY. NOZZLES CHAINED TO PUMP AND CANNOT BECOME LOST
COMBINATION BRASS HANDLE FOR CARRYING TANK AND FOR HOLDING PUMP
HEAVY BRASS QUICK OPENING WATER TIGHT FILLER CAP WITH REMOVABLE BRASS STRAINER. CAP HAS INSIDE CHAIN TO PREVENT LOSING.
EXTRA HEAVY TANK HAS SOLID BRASS BOTTOM. ALL JOINTS LOCKED AND SOLDERED. BUILT STRONG
Patented
FORM-FITTING. VENTILATED TANK GIVES A CONSTANT CIRCULATION OF AIR BETWEEN TANK AND CARRIER'S BACK. IT PROTECTS THE BACK FROM THE COLD WATER AND MOISTURE IN THE TANK AND KEEPS THE BACK WARM AND DRY. THE FORM-FITTING SHAPE OF THIS TANK FITS THE BACK PERFECTLY. SNUG AND FIRM AND FEELS GOOD.

INDIAN

FIRE PUMP

The INDIAN FIRE PUMP with its truck carrying rack is standard equipment in many departments. If you are using INDIANS you know the valuable service they give. If not, write today for

full details pertaining to this highly efficient fire pump which uses only clear water.

D. B. SMITH & CO.
414 Main St., Utica, N.Y.

Pyrene Prize Letter Contest

This Month's Awards for Best Letters on Fires Put Out with Fire Extinguishers

FIRST PRIZE — $10.00

HERMAN SNAVELY, *2nd Lieutenant*,
Fire Department, Woodland, Calif.

Theatre Saved and Panic Prevented

"I was on duty at the theatre, and while walking around to make sure that everything was safe, I smelled something burning. I traced the smoke to the basement, where I found a pile of rags on fire.

"Just a week before this I made the manager of the theatre install two 2½-gallon soda-acid extinguishers in the basement. Taking one of these, I had the fire out before the manager came down.

"Around 900 people were seeing the show, and if it had happened that no one was back stage, the $80,000 theatre and several lives might have been lost. Now the manager has also placed four one-quart carbon tetrachloride extinguishers in the projector room."

SECOND PRIZE — $3.00

ANDREW J. ELLIS,
Fire Department, Laurel, Del.

Bus Driver a Polite Fireman

"Ladies and gentlemen, pardon me, please, there's a car on fire across the highway," said the driver of a bus belonging to one of the popular lines that traverse the state. With this remark he brought his bus to a full stop, took a small fire extinguisher from a hook near the driver's seat, tipped his cap politely and hurried across the boulevard to where a car was standing enveloped in smoke. Within a few minutes the smoke passed off, and the driver returned. "Any damage?" asked one of the passengers. "Only slight, sir," answered the driver. "Just a small blaze under the hood, caused by an overheated motor."

"Do your employers instruct you to render this kind of service?" I asked. "Yes, sir, they do, and in my five years as a driver I have had the pleasure of saving several thousands of dollars for auto owners with my fire extinguisher. No, sir, passengers do not get impatient. Everybody gets interested when there's a fire," said the man in answer to my query as to the feeling of his "fares" at being held up for a fire.

THIRD PRIZE — $2.00

KYLE M. PUGH, *Mechanic*,
Fire Department, Cheney, Wash.

$30,000 Factory Saved

"Eleven of our fifteen-member volunteer department responded to an alarm with two pieces of equipment. We found a blaze in the basement of a frame sheet-iron covered factory. The fire was caused by sparks from an unshielded emery grinder flying to a paint drip-rack and dryer which was above an open 100-gallon paint vat used for dipping machine parts.

"With the aid of a 3-gallon extinguisher on a nearby wall, and a 3-gallon and two 1-quart (all carbon tetrachloride) extinguishers from the apparatus, the blaze was kept from the paint in the vat and was extinguished within four minutes of the time of the alarm. There was no loss to building or contents, and an estimated saving of $30,000."

HONORABLE MENTION

W. G. HOLT, *Engineer and Driver*,
Fire Department, Red Bluff, Calif.

WILLIAM H. EVANS, *Rec. Secy.*,
Mitchell Hose Co. No. 1, Carbondale, Pa.

You Can Write a Winning Letter

It's the story we want and no one need be bashful because he may doubt his ability to write the story effectively. We will attend to any rewriting that may be necessary to get the story into the space available in these columns, and will provide a suitable heading. Each month cash prizes are paid to the three men with the best stories.

This contest is sponsored co-operatively by the Pyrene Manufacturing Company of Newark, N. J., and VOLUNTEER FIREMEN to bring the lessons which may be learned, from actual fires, of the value of fire extinguishers as a means of saving life and property. Your story can help in this important service.

The stories this month for which prizes have been awarded are thrilling accounts embracing the elements of great danger, quick thinking and courageous action.

Each month the following cash prizes are awarded: First Prize, $10.00; Second Prize, $3.00; Third Prize, $2.00. The contest is judged each month by the engineering staff of the National Fire Protection Association and the editors of VOLUNTEER FIREMEN.

CONTEST RULES

1. Contestants in the Pyrene Prize Letter Contest must be members of their local fire department.
2. Letters are to describe actual experiences where any approved fire extinguisher of any make has saved lives or property.
3. Trade names may be used but will be deleted in publication. Publishers reserve the right to edit winning letters to permit publication.
4. Each contestant automatically vouches for the truth of the facts presented from his own or others' experiences.
5. Only one letter may be submitted each month.
6. Letters must be legibly written in ink or typewritten on white paper, one side only. Preference will be given to letters not over 250 words in length.
7. Letters received after the 15th of the month will be judged in following month's competition.
8. Monthly prizes in cash will be: 1st, $10.00; 2nd, $3.00, and 3rd, $2.00.
9. Address contest letter to Pyrene Prize Letter Contest, National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch Street, Boston, Mass.

All America Acclaims the SUPER CHAMPION 500

HIGH POWER
AT VERY SMALL
COST
$1995
Includes V8 chassis
No hose or ladders

Easily Passed the 500 GPM Test conducted by the National Board of Fire Underwriters

Hosts of alert-brained Chiefs are tossing aside old ideas about Pumpers because Champions are so BASICALLY different, so revolutionary in PRINCIPLE, so marvelous in PERFORMANCE that it's like a pump from another world!
Words cannot tell all a Champion can do; we just wish every Fire Chief could put one thru its paces—to discover once more the thrills that were his at his first battle with fire. Here is a Champion he can drive 24 HOURS at HIGH PRESSURE—without the least thought or worry about the pump. It works with perfect smoothness because it has NO GEARS!

Pumps only sold separately. Fit any chassis—old or new easily attached.
$269 to $425.00
complete with all attachments.

FORD V8
500
GALLON
CHAMPION
PUMPER

The Greatest Value That Can Be Built Into a Fire Truck!

To the Fire Chief of discernment and enthusiasm, who wants a quick getaway, a flying start, the Champion has an instant appeal. Its sound and stable roadability, its balance, its feeling of utter security and its safety, are precisely what he wants along with its marvelous performance.

Never has he seen a pumper like the Champion, of such tremendous capacity and pressure and yet barely 175 lbs. in weight.

Convinced by test of Champion stamina, it is a rare thing for a Fire Chief to take a demonstration of the newest Champion and resist the desire to command it. Try one yourself—and see.

Words can't tell you what it's like. Take a Champion to battle a fire to get the experience. You have to FEEL the thrill of giving it water, the dynamic acceleration and the amazingly effortless speed with which it builds up pressure and gets into action.

Darley offers something entirely new in fire apparatus . . . new pride in appearance . . . new sensations . . . new engineering . . . new safety . . . as well as a price that gives hundreds of Chiefs a chance to command one or more.

Darley Engineers check the minute control of every item entering into its construction . . . no fire truck, we believe, can be made as safe and dependable without these resources, nor without such detailed control of quality from front fender to platform step.

Darley Engineers invite you to compare the new Champions with any other Fire Apparatus on Earth. They are offering you as fine a truck as human ingenuity has learned how to design and human skill to build.

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